

REMARKS

This amendment is in response to the final Office Action of April 10, 2006, in which the pending claims 1-3, 5-9 and 11-27 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Lupien* (US 6,389,008). The present independent claims are network claim 1, method claim 21, and gateway device 27. The final Office Action cites a similarity of *Lupien*'s "EIR" to the present claimed "network control device".

The present claims are now amended so that the term "network control device" used in the independent claims is clarified in order to describe the functionality of an MSC. According to the present amendments, the network control device provides call setup and call control functions.

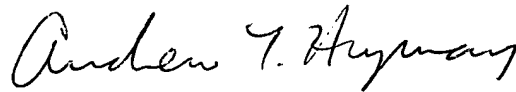
The present amendments are supported at least by page 10, lines 27-29 of the present application as originally filed, where it is stated that "the MSC 4 controlling the GW 5 can map the control information received via the ISUP interface to the MGCP used for controlling the GW 5". Furthermore, at page 3, lines 22-23 of the original patent application, it is stated that "the ISUP interface provides the required ISDN call setup and control functions". According to these statements, the ISUP interface provides call setup and control functions. This is the role of the MSC in the network. An EIR cannot provide these functions. The EIR of *Lupien* is not a network control device providing call setup and control functions.

The claims are also amended to remove language about the location of the gateway and interfaces in the core network. Additionally, the claims are amended merely to place them in a more readable and appropriate format.

CONCLUSION

The rejections of the official action having been obviated by amendment or shown to be inapplicable, withdrawal thereof is requested and passage of the pending claims to issue is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew T. Hyman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Andrew" being more prominent than the last name "Hyman".

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